

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

NEBRASKA
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

For Week Ending September 15, 1991

Issue: 27-91

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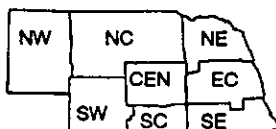
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National Agricultural Statistics Service
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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin.
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
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WEATHER

Temperatures varied across the State from near normal in the Northwest to five degrees above normals in the Southwest up to ten degrees above in the eastern portion. Precipitation occurred throughout the week with amounts ranging from .18 inch in Valentine up to 3.64 inches at Chadron.

GENERAL

Scattered rains this past week were beneficial to Nebraska's farmers and ranchers spirits as well as to pastures, wheat seeding prospects, and some soybean fields, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. In most cases, the fall maturing crops have passed the maturity stage where rainfall would improve yield prospects. Fall harvest became active in many areas where crops have dried down under more normal conditions and in other areas where drought damage has hastened dry down. Dry bean harvest continued to make good progress. Other farm activities included livestock care, harvest preparations, and wheat plantings.

CROPS

Corn condition was rated at 6% very poor, 8% poor, 34% fair, 46% good, and 6% excellent. Silage harvesting activities continued in full swing. Harvest for grain made good progress across the State this past week with 8% cut by week's end. This remains a week ahead of last year and the 5-year average.

CROPS (Cont.)

Soybean condition was rated at 5% very poor, 31% poor, 52% fair, and 12% good. The crop continued to mature at an increasing rate compared with normal. Harvest made limited progress with 3% out of fields by the end of last week.

Sorghum condition was rated at 23% very poor, 13% poor, 41% fair, 22% good, and 1% excellent. Harvest for grain also made good progress last week with 7% cut to date. This was about ten days ahead of normal and two weeks ahead of last year.

Alfalfa was rated at 8% very poor, 33% poor, 34% fair, 24% good, and 1% excellent. Third cutting activities made good progress last week and remained ahead of last year and average.

Wheat seeding moved ahead last week with producers completing 27% of the intended acres. This remains behind last year at 29% and the average at 36%. Localized heavy rains this past week may require replanting in western areas.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition was rated at 62% of normal, unchanged from last week. Some pastures are showing improvements from the recent rains, but many producers are still supplementing hay and forage to cattle on pastures while they wait for stalk fields to become available for grazing.

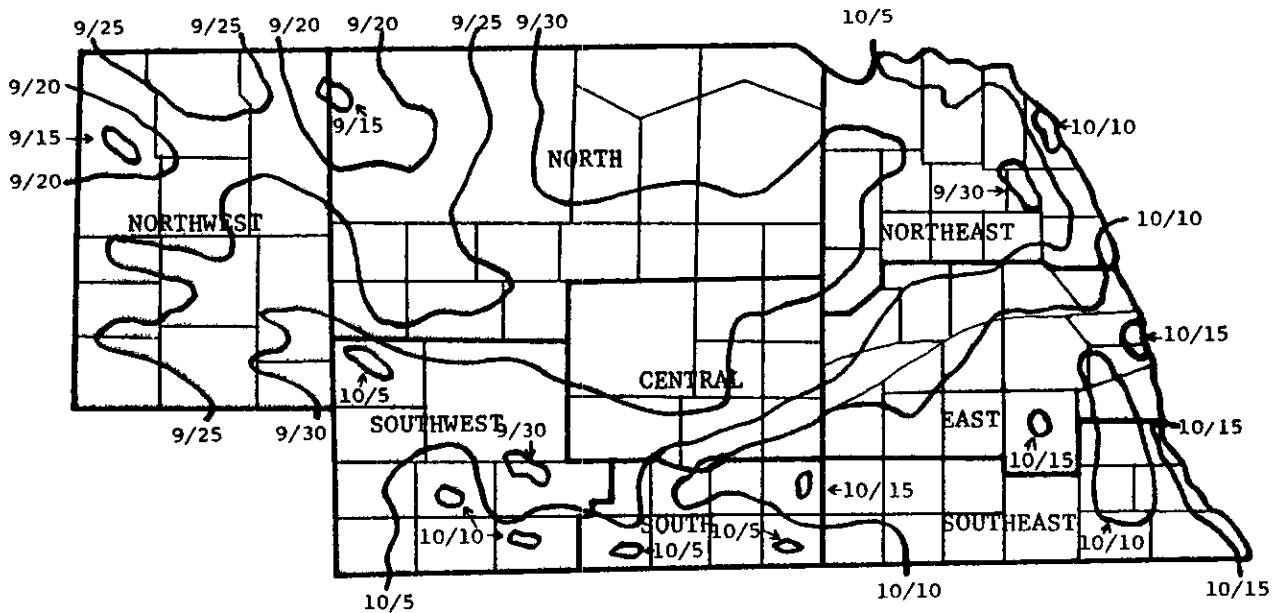
FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF SEPTEMBER 15, 1991	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% corn dented	94	100	99	100	98	97	100	100	99	98	92	95
% corn mature	23	35	71	66	72	34	61	89	64	44	38	49
% corn harvested	1	3	11	10	8	1	4	19	8	4	3	3
% sorghum turning color	100	98	100	95	96	100	91	98	96	86	88	89
% sorghum mature	0	21	59	26	69	24	38	71	59	36	23	37
% sorghum harvested	0	3	1	2	6	0	1	11	7	2	0	2
% soybeans turning color	0	82	92	85	91	74	82	94	91	67	74	78
% soybeans dropping leaves	0	37	51	34	58	31	44	56	53	30	33	36
% soybeans harvested	0	3	2	2	5	1	0	3	3	1	1	1
% alfalfa third cutting	83	94	98	100	97	100	100	88	95	88	94	93
% wheat sown	54	42	7	33	15	13	18	5	27	8	29	36
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF SEPTEMBER 13, 1991												
Days suitable	4.3	5.3	4.8	6.4	5.2	3.6	6.0	5.4	5.1	6.8	7.0	
Topsoil moisture - Short	39	76	48	86	66	54	86	95	68	96	99	
(Percent) - Adequate	61	18	33	14	31	46	14	5	27	3	1	
- Surplus	0	6	19	0	3	0	0	0	5	1	0	
Subsoil moisture - Short	54	88	81	86	93	64	93	100	85	87	82	
(Percent) - Adequate	46	12	19	14	7	36	7	0	15	12	18	
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	

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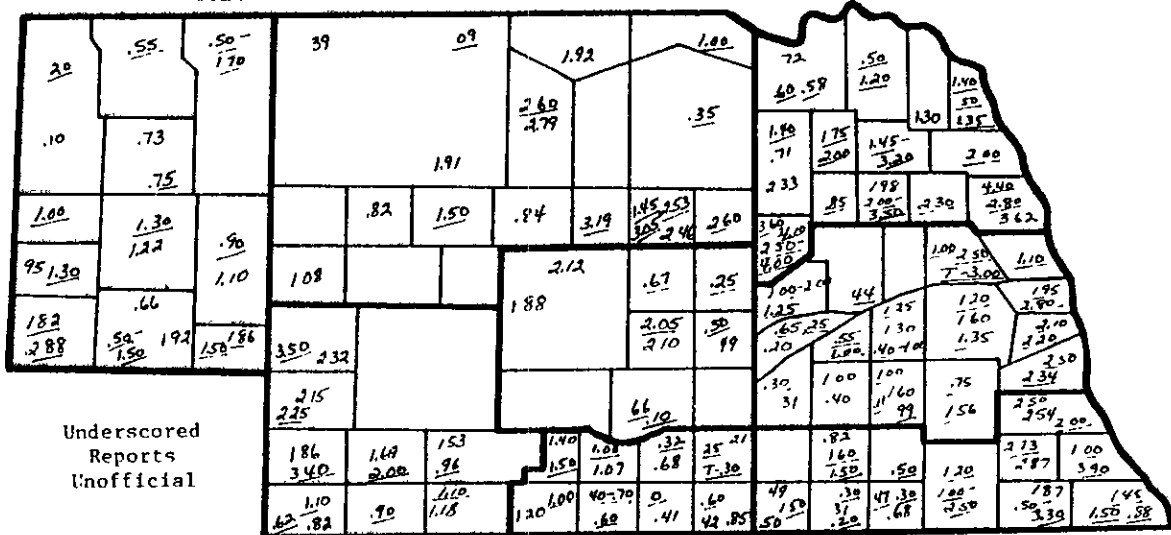
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NEBRASKA -- AVERAGE DATE OF FIRST 32°F TEMPERATURE IN FALL 1/



1/ Map based on data from the 50-year period 1921-1970.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1991



	Precipitation, April 1 - September 13, 1991							
	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.95	1.53	1.78	1.67	1.00	1.65	.78	1.26
Total since April 1	13.64	15.02	16.85	14.96	18.83	15.37	15.90	15.10
Normal since April 1	12.43	15.38	17.86	16.69	19.30	13.97	17.00	20.29
Total as % of normal	110%	98%	94%	90%	98%	110%	94%	74%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1991

Station		Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	88	39	65	---	3.64	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	87	42	63	0	40	2417	2529	2514
	Sidney	85	48	64	---	1.37	2358	2464	2464
NC	Valentine	88	51	68	+5	.18	2556	2690	2547
NE	Norfolk	88	54	73	+9	1.40	---	---	---
	Sioux City	88	59	74	+8	1.59	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	2710	2852	2824
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	2741	2886	2755
	West Point*	---	---	---	---	---	2834	2993	2889
	Grand Island	95	56	75	+10	.73	2900	3065	2896
CEN	Ord	87	52	71	---	90	2754	2902	2852
	Lincoln	96	60	75	+8	.77	3091	3275	3011
	Omaha	91	63	75	+10	1.33	3040	3221	2889
EC	Columbus	---	---	---	---	---	3039	3201	2950
	York	---	---	---	---	---	2964	3138	3042
	Imperial	86	52	70	---	2.54	---	---	---
SW	North Platte	89	52	68	+5	1.66	**2571	**2696	**2714
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	2799	2949	2954
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	3026	3204	3024
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	2865	3027	3000

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above * Automated weather station ** North Platte Experiment Station

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp + min. temp divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.